1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	DISTRICT OF OREGON
3	PORTLAND DIVISION
4	
5	KELLY CAHILL, SARA JOHNSTON, Case No.: 3:18-cv-01477-JR
	LINDSAY ELIZABETH, and HEATHER
6	HENDER, individually and on
	behalf of others similarly
7	situated,
8	Plaintiffs,
9	v.
10	NIKE, INC., an Oregon Corporation,
11	Defendant.
12	
13	
14	
15	VIDEOTAPED VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF
16	SARA JOHNSTON
17	Beaverton, Oregon
18	Tuesday, November 24, 2020
19	Volume 1
20	
21	
22	Reported by:
	LESLIE JOHNSON
23	RPR, CCRR, CSR No. 11451
24	Job No.: 4347395
25	PAGES 1 - 312
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1	course of study at OAT. There were three classes	02:18:07
2	that were relevant and applicable.	
3	Q And you specifically applied, right, for	
4	that BSA1 position; is that right?	
5	A Yeah. The BSA1, I believe, was also like	02:18:20
6	the ASR. It's a pool that they keep open for	
7	entry-level BSA roles.	
8	Q Were there any other skills or expertise	
9	that you thought you brought to bear on that	
10	position?	02:18:38
11	A I do think all of my knowledge of the SAP	
12	application, the whole supply chain, right, supply	
13	planning, demand planning, inventory planning,	
14	logistics. I knew people in all those departments.	
15	I understood in a good way how those flowed.	02:18:51
16	I had some reporting experience with, you	
17	know, Excel and a lot of Excel experience. I was a	
18	subject matter expert and helped I actually	
19	suggested several changes to our current system.	
20	They had a rollout of a new order management system	02:19:16
21	and helped do some of the testing on their deconsol	
22	process. So there was a little bit of experience	
23	with that as well.	
<u>24</u>	Q For how long did you hold that junior BSA	
<u>25</u>	position?	02:19:34
		Page 134

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1	<u>A I don't know. I don't know exact dates.</u>	02:19:38
<u>2</u>	Q <u>I think you began in around August of</u>	
<u>3</u>	2012. Does that sound correct?	
<u>4</u>	A That sounds about right.	
<u>5</u>	Q And I believe your complaint alleges that	02:19:49
<u>6</u>	you held that position until somewhere around the	
7	first six months of 2014. And I just wanted to know	
<u>8</u>	whether or not you had a more precise window. If	
<u>9</u>	you recall.	
<u>10</u>	<u>A</u> I know that I met with my manager for a	02:20:03
<u>11</u>	CFE, and both Grant and Noah were promoted and I was	
<u>12</u>	not. He said that he lobbied for me very hard, but	
<u>13</u>	during the OTP process, I was not visible and so he	
<u>14</u>	couldn't promote me. And then he promoted me	
<u>15</u>	off-cycle.	02:20:25
<u>16</u>	So I I would say, if I started in 8 of	
<u>17</u>	'12, a full year would have been '13, and then	
<u>18</u>	off-cycle would have been either beginning of '14	
<u>19</u>	somewhere in there. Sounds about right.	
20	Q Yeah. But the question literally the	02:20:42
21	question was, do you recall what month in 2014 you	
22	would have stopped serving in the junior BSA role?	
<u>23</u>	<u>A</u> <u>I don't recall, no.</u>	
24	Q Do you know how many people were	
25	considered for that junior BSA position?	02:21:03
		Page 135

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1	Q Do you know whether you volunteered	03:49:34
2	information about your prior compensation when you	
3	were offered the junior BSA position?	
4	A I don't think so. I don't recall.	
5	Q Do you recall one way or the other?	03:49:44
6	A I don't recall.	
7	Q Do you recall that your base salary was	
8	around \$58,000 as a junior BSA? Is that correct?	
9	A Sounds about right.	
10	Q Did you negotiate that salary?	03:50:10
11	A I didn't know that I could. I assumed	
12	that, since I was already an employee, that I acted	
13	more like a promotion or an internal transfer. I	
14	didn't think that I could negotiate when going into	
15	that role because I wasn't a new hire. So it I	03:50:32
16	don't think that I tried.	
17	Q Did you know whether or not this was an	
18	entry-level professional position?	
19	A At the time I applied?	
20	Q At the time you applied.	03:51:01
21	A No. I don't know that I did. I don't	
22	know that I understood.	
<u>23</u>	Q You were promoted to the intermediate BSA	
<u>24</u>	role in about July of 2014; is that right?	
<u>25</u>	A That sounds about right.	03:51:26
		Page 181

1	infrastructure, that you're going to hire an	04:59:43
2	external candidate. And, if that's the case, I can	
3	partner with them and train them on all things Nike	
4	from what this role requires. I can be a junior	
5	product owner on the other team, and I can" "we	04:59:58
6	can work together and mentor each other. I can	
7	mentor them in Nike, and they can train me how to be	
8	a better product owner, if that's your concern."	
9	And he indicated that would not be	
10	acceptable and that he would like to help me move to	05:00:13
11	a different team.	
12	Q What was your response to that?	
13	A So I tried to find another position.	
14	Zubair was a great manager who advocated for me, so	
<u>15</u>	I reached out to him and asked if he had any roles.	05:00:35
<u>16</u>	Zubair said he had a potential opening and that he	
<u>17</u>	would talk to Ryan.	
18	Zubair, you know, I talked to him a few	
<u>19</u>	times and I talked to Ryan a few times. I'm a	
20	little hazy this far removed from the situation, but	05:00:51
21	I recall distinctly that Zubair had told me he	
22	needed feedback from Ryan to move me into the role	
23	or to interview me for the role.	
24	And so I went to Ryan. I was in his	
<u>25</u>	office, had a conversation with Ryan. And Ryan told	05:01:10
	P	age 217

<u>1</u>	me that he had talked to Zubair earlier that morning	05:01:12
<u>2</u>	and given me a recommendation. I walked out of the	
<u>3</u>	office and into the break room and ran straight into	
<u>4</u>	Zubair not even two minutes later, and I asked	
<u>5</u>	Zubair about the conversation, and he said Ryan	05:01:25
<u>6</u>	never spoke to him.	
7	It's my belief that Ryan lied to me and	
<u>8</u>	that he from his behavior and from the things he	
<u>9</u>	said that he was retaliating potentially from his	
10	interaction and the issues that happened with	05:01:43
11	that he didn't want me on his team because I had	
<u>12</u>	reported the incident to HR.	
<u>13</u>	And so I felt like I had no other choice.	
<u>14</u>	I was never going to be promoted. I had actually	
<u>15</u>	been demoted and taken the position away from me. I	05:02:02
<u>16</u>	felt like I had to leave Nike. I felt like my	
<u>17</u>	career was dead if I stayed. There was no space for	
<u>18</u>	me. <u>So I left.</u>	
19	Q While you were in your stretch role, were	
20	the other intermediate BSAs still in their capacity	05:02:17
21	as an intermediate BSA?	
22	MR. KAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.	
23	THE WITNESS: I don't know which	
24	intermediate BSAs you're talking about. I believe	
25	that Grant and Noah had been promoted multiple times	05:02:37
		Page 218

1	On, you know, the Valentine's Day text	05:25:47
2	where he sent a dick pic, it actually was sent when	
3	I was at a coworker's house having a glass of wine,	
4	and the coworker saw it. So I deleted I thought	
5	I had deleted all of the photos a long time ago	05:26:03
6	before I even left Nike.	
7	Q The question I have is, you preserved the	
8	nude photographs that sent you and	
9	indeed turned them over to Nike HR. However, your	
10	photos that you sent you deleted; is that correct?	05:26:30
11	MR. KAN: Objection. Misstates her	
12	testimony.	
13	THE WITNESS: There was a time that I	
14	considered dating . I viewed everything up to	
15	that point as consensual. Even the stuff that	05:26:44
16	wasn't consensual at the beginning, in my complaint	
17	to HR, it wasn't necessarily that that had that	
18	we had a consensual relationship.	
<u>19</u>	For me, the issue was he was retaliating.	
<u>20</u>	I had stopped responding, and he refused to come to	05:27:05
<u>21</u>	meetings to two meetings that I held that were	
<u>22</u>	necessary to get my job done. He was effectively	
<u>23</u>	preventing me from doing my job, and he started	
24	denigrating my work to other coworkers.	
<u>25</u>	If I needed to meet with him, he was	05:27:22
		Page 230

<u>1</u>	punishing me because I wasn't responding, and he	05:27:25
<u>2</u>	absolutely required that a male or a different	
<u>3</u>	coworker set the meeting. He wouldn't go to it if I	
<u>4</u>	set it. He didn't show up.	
<u>5</u>	I then needed to get my work done. He was	05:27:39
<u>6</u>	retaliating against me and refusing to help me with	
7	my work because I stopped responding after so	
8	there was a period I will say at the very	
<u>9</u>	beginning, it was nonconsensual. There was a period	
10	that was consensual. And I didn't turn any of the	05:27:54
<u>11</u>	material over to HR between either of us because it	
<u>12</u>	was consensual.	
<u>13</u>	And then the period of nonconsensual	
<u>14</u>	activity, I handed that over because I felt like	
<u>15</u>	that was when the boundaries were broken between	05:28:09
<u>16</u>	what we agreed to, and I was being retaliated	
<u>17</u>	against because I wouldn't respond sexually to him	
<u>18</u>	anymore or however.	
19	BY MR. PRINCE:	
20	Q In Exhibit 40, where does ask	05:28:26
21	for nude photo of you?	
22	MR. KAN: Objection. The document speaks	
23	for itself.	
24	THE WITNESS: On December 14th. I can't	
25	see which one, since I yeah. I don't know which	05:28:57
	Pa	ge 231

1	Who did you speak with in HR about your	06:05:46
2	claims that had sent you inappropriate	
3	materials?	
4	A There were a few people that I talked	
5	with. I originally approached Lara Anderson, who I	06:05:59
6	knew was in human resources, and she directed me to	
7	the HR, I think, email process. There's, like, an	
8	email so I sent an email in. And then I spoke	
9	with Brittany Miller.	
10	I also, in the course of at that moment	06:06:21
11	in time was also friends with Caroline Allaker, who	
12	was, I believe, a manager in HR at that time, also	
13	trying to work that angle. So Lara, Caroline,	
14	Brittany Miller and Steve Dawson were the ones that	
15	I had communications with.	06:06:44
<u>16</u>	Q And what was your specific complaint about	
<u>17</u>		
<u>18</u>	MR. KAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous	
<u>19</u>	as to time.	
<u>20</u>	BY MR. PRINCE:	06:06:57
<u>21</u>	Q <u>In the February to March 2016 time frame.</u>	
22	A So I went to HR with	
<u>23</u>	(phonetic). I found out that he sexually assaulted	
24	her at the same event where he started sending me	
<u>25</u>	inappropriate messages. So and I together	06:07:19
	I	Page 244

1	went to HR, and they asked to speak to us	06:07:22
<u>2</u>	<u>separately.</u>	
<u>3</u>	So I reported what said to me, and I	
<u>4</u>	reported the retaliation from, as well as I	
<u>5</u>	reported my management and their responses. I	06:07:38
<u>6</u>	believe I documented all of the interactions and	
<u>7</u>	attached it to an email for Steve Dawson. If you'd	
<u>8</u>	like to refer to that, I can give you more detail.	
<u>9</u>	Q And did you approach ER, employee	
10	relations, about in April of 2016?	06:08:08
<u>11</u>	A I believe that or what I can recall at	
<u>12</u>	this time is that I know that there is a complaint	
<u>13</u>	resolution procedure that I read online that was, if	
<u>14</u>	you go to your manager, if your manager doesn't	
<u>15</u>	manage it, you go to your director. If your	06:08:32
<u>16</u>	director doesn't go to it, go to HR. If HR doesn't	
<u>17</u>	go to it, then go to the HR manager, all the way up	
<u>18</u>	to, I think, the VP of HR. And, if the VP of HR	
<u>19</u>	doesn't respond, then you can seek outside help.	
<u>20</u>	So I felt like the situation was	06:08:46
<u>21</u>	particularly egregious, so through that same method	
<u>22</u>	of which ER connected me with Brittany Miller, I	
<u>23</u>	responded to that and said I would like to speak to	
<u>24</u>	the ultimate person at the end of the chain, the VP	
<u>25</u>	of HR. And so I requested through the email HR	06:09:04
	Pa	age 245

1	direct inbox I believe that's what it was to	06.09.10
		00.05.10
<u>2</u>	speak with the VP of HR, which I believe that was	
<u>3</u>	<u>David Ayre at that time.</u>	
<u>4</u>	Q Did you ever speak with him?	
<u>5</u>	A No. I was set up with an appointment with	06:09:23
<u>6</u>	Steve Dawson. I followed that email up with that	
7	appointment up with a request you know, I	
<u>8</u>	requested to speak with the VP of HR. They have the	
<u>9</u>	ultimate complaint resolution abilities. "Does this	
<u>10</u>	person have the same ability per this policy in this	06:09:39
<u>11</u>	regard?" And they responded, "Yes, he does."	
<u>12</u>	Q What was your conversation with Mr. Dawson	
<u>13</u>	in relation to your complaints about Mr.	
<u>14</u>	<u>?</u>	
<u>15</u>	A We talked for two hours. So when I first	06:10:01
<u>16</u>	entered the room, I validated with him that he did	
<u>17</u>	indeed have the same powers as David Ayre to make	
<u>18</u>	sure that I was going up the chain of command.	
<u>19</u>	And then he asked me. He's like, you	
20	know, "You haven't had any more experiences with	06:10:22
21	. Why are you here?"	
22	And I said, you know, " texted me at	
23	11:00 p.m. on my birthday trip. He was trying to	
<u>24</u>	what I believe is reignite his inappropriate	
<u>25</u>	behavior."	06:10:43
	I	Page 246

1	And he asked me the contents of the text	06:10:47
<u>2</u>	message, and I said it was "Have fun in L.A." And	
<u>3</u>	he told me he didn't believe that that was negative.	
<u>4</u>	And I said context matters. You know, if you're a	
<u>5</u>	married person and you're receiving text messages	06:11:06
<u>6</u>	from female colleagues at you know, in the middle	
7	of the night, how would your wife respond? I saw he	
<u>8</u>	was married. He had a wedding ring on his finger.	
9	And he's like, "Well, that's irrelevant."	
10	And I said, "I don't think it is." I	06:11:22
11	think that he was texting me in the middle of the	
<u>12</u>	night. That fit his pattern of behavior, and that	
13	he was trying to initiate more harassment, and that	
14	I had seen that he had escalated. I had talked with	
<u>15</u>	and seen every message that	06:11:38
<u>16</u>	sent to her, every single message in detail. I read	
<u>17</u>	the chain multiple times, and that he was escalating	
18	his abuse of women.	
<u>19</u>	I had seen come up and say to	
20		06:11:59
21	inappropriate," and "don't do that anymore." And I	
22	felt like, with respect to the situation, that HR	
23	hadn't handled it.	
24	With respect to, I think there was a	
<u>25</u>	lot more that I covered in the interview with	06:12:22
		Page 247

1		
1	Mr. Dawson. I think that's what I can recall right	06:12:25
2	now.	
<u>3</u>	<u>O</u> <u>Okay.</u>	
4	A I recall more.	
<u>5</u>	Q Okay. Please tell me.	06:12:38
<u>6</u>	A So the other thing that I talked with	
7	Mr. Dawson about was 's retaliation and how he	
<u>8</u>	wouldn't meet with me, and that he had recently been	
<u>9</u>	promoted into a new role.	
10	I had communicated with my managers, and	06:12:56
11	they said that would now be about 70 percent	
12	contributor to my CFE. And then I actually drew an	
13	org chart for Mr. Dawson. I talked with Mr. Dawson	
14	about how Justin and Ryan outlined that I could not	
<u>15</u>	leave the department. I could only stay in planning	06:13:20
16	and how if any role that I could potentially take	
<u>17</u>	within the department, if I were to move, he would	
18	have an impact based on the role that he was in on	
19	my career.	
20	And he asked "What about this? What about	06:13:34
21	this?" And I drew a hierarchy on the desk that	
22	showed what effect it impacted me.	
23	And then I asked about training. I asked,	
24	you know, why training wasn't done for management,	
<u>25</u>	why training wasn't done for what had been	06:13:54
	Pa	age 248

1	done. I think there might be more, but that's what	06:14:01
<u>2</u>	I'm recalling right now with respect to .	
<u>3</u>	Q You mentioned an org chart. What happened	
<u>4</u>	to the org chart? Did you provide that to your	
<u>5</u>	lawyers?	06:14:17
<u>6</u>	A No. So in the room we were in, the	
7	tabletop is made out of whiteboard material. And we	
<u>8</u>	had whiteboard erase markers. So I drew it on the	
<u>9</u>	table, and I believe Mr. Dawson took pictures. So I	
<u>10</u>	don't have a copy of what I drew.	06:14:40
<u>11</u>	O Okay.	
<u>12</u>	A If you have a copy in your notes, I would	
<u>13</u>	be happy to look at it and confirm.	
<u>14</u>	Q Okay. So, as far as you recall, that	
<u>15</u>	what you just told me is your recollection of your	06:14:51
<u>16</u>	correspondence with Mr. Dawson; is that right?	
<u>17</u>	A No. That's not correct. That's my	
<u>18</u>	conversation, not correspondence with Mr. Dawson,	
<u>19</u>	regarding . Since I was meeting with the	
20	ultimate person in HR, I took the opportunity and	06:15:12
21	talked about all of the other issues that I talked	
22	with you about regarding pay, promotion, the I	
<u>23</u>	don't know what you call it, but I called it	
24	funneling into different areas.	
<u>25</u>	I talked about the ineffectiveness of	06:15:31
	Pa	ge 249

<u>1</u>	Brittany Miller. And one of the things she said is	06:15:36
2	that my investigation was closed and that I never	
<u>3</u>	had a case. But, when we were talking, she said	
4	that, in any sort of situation like this, we	
<u>5</u>	automatically, no matter what, make all of the	06:15:54
<u>6</u>	managers in the department go through training.	
7	And I told my boss about that	
8	conversation. And I checked in with him every two	
9	weeks to ask if they had training, and they kept	
10	saying "No, no, no." And then Brittany you know,	06:16:07
11	it turns out when I talked with Brittany the second	
12	time that even though, the way she presented it,	
<u>13</u>	that it would actually happen, it never did, and	
14	that she closed the case and said there was no	
<u>15</u>	complaints and basically erased it.	06:16:20
<u>16</u>	And so I talked about how HR mishandled	
<u>17</u>	it, especially given how, you know, was	
18	affected, how was affected. And I don't know	
<u>19</u>	how many other women were affected. I've heard of	
20	other women that didn't tell me firsthand that were	06:16:39
21	impacted by 's behavior. He was a predator, and	
22	he preyed on his coworkers and the power dynamic	
23	that he held.	
24	So I brought all of that and I'm sure	
<u>25</u>	there's more, but I talked about each and every one	06:16:55
		Page 250

1	of those things with Mr. Dawson. I suggested that	06:16:58
<u>2</u>	they create a program called, you know, Play Fair,	
<u>3</u>	like they did Keep It Tight and or that they do,	
<u>4</u>	you know, an IT training. Because it was I felt	
<u>5</u>	like it was severe and pervasive, the bias and	06:17:15
<u>6</u>	behavior.	
<u>7</u>	I also talked about his	
<u>8</u>	behavior on the golf course. I talked about some of	
<u>9</u>	the behavior of the other people in leadership and	
<u>10</u>	said, you know, "I don't feel like, with the	06:17:32
11	behavior that's been allowed and with the way that	
<u>12</u>	management has been behaving, that I have a fair	
<u>13</u>	chance at getting promoted or even having a career	
<u>14</u>	here. There are several men in management that are	
<u>15</u>	behaving inappropriately."	06:17:47
<u>16</u>	Q Okay. So I	
<u>17</u>	A So I think there is still more. It was a	
<u>18</u>	two-hour conversation. And I wish I could recount	
<u>19</u>	all two hours of it for you. I think that	
20	Q Fair enough.	06:18:11
21	A that's the primary.	
22	Q Those were the primary points. Fair?	
<u>23</u>	$\underline{A}$ Yeah. I think that's	
24	Q Did you convey different points to Lara	
25	Anderson?	06:18:26
		Page 251

1	left her to make the decision we were in a little	06:23:15
2	conference room in the back I was I thought to	
3	myself "There is no way I can allow this." So	
4	that's when I emailed Brittany and said "Hey, we	
5	need to talk. I found out some additional issues	06:23:26
6	about ."	
7	So and I went to the Brickyard	
8	Tavern, and we hung out. Brittany responded to me.	
9	came out probably an hour or two after I	
10	sent the email to Brittany and said "I made the	06:23:45
11	decision that I would report it to HR. I sent	
12	Brittany Miller an email."	
13	Brittany responded to me. She did not	
14	respond to that day. We both went to the	
15	Brickyard to go talk and have a conversation.	06:23:59
16	When Brittany called me, was	
17	present. She heard my end of the conversation with	
18	Brittany, how it went. And we talked about, you	
19	know, Brittany's response. Because Brittany told me	
20	if I talked about at all anymore, I would be	06:24:19
21	fired for harassment of him, that I was	
22	participating in retaliation of him, and that I was	
23	not to speak about the incident.	
24	And I asked Brittany very clearly, "Is the	
<u>25</u>	investigation still open?" And she said "No."	06:24:40
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<u>1</u>	There was never any investigation that she	06:24:42
<u>2</u>	conducted, that she closed it as having a consensual	
<u>3</u>	relationship, so, therefore, no nothing occurred.	
<u>4</u>	So there was no investigation. There was no more to	
<u>5</u>	the matter.	06:24:57
6	And I asked her if 's investigation	
7	was open, and she said she was not allowed to	
8	comment on that on what steps had been taken.	
9	So heard all of that, to the best	
10	of my knowledge, from my perspective. We talked	06:25:10
11	about Brittany's conversation. And so I know that	
12	met with HR. And then and I hung	
13	out again and talked about what happened. She	
14	wanted someone to talk to because she was really	
15	distraught having to relive it.	06:25:30
16	So copied all of her text messages	
17	from And she was doing it in the back	
18	conference room after her meeting. I watched her do	
19	it. She told me she sent it to HR and was having a	
20	really hard time because they were very violent and	06:25:45
21	graphic in nature. She sat right next to, like	
22	three feet away. She built a wall in between their	
23	space.	
24	So with respect to and I, you	
25	know, after that, I asked her what was the outcome,	06:26:06
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1	Nike took to investigate the incident?	06:39:36
2	MR. KAN: Objection. Asked and answered.	
3	THE WITNESS: Brittany Miller and Steve	
4	Dawson were very clear that they could not share	
5	with me any steps or information, that I just had to	06:39:54
6	trust them.	
7	BY MR. PRINCE:	
8	Q Who is ? And, if you	
9	need me to spell that, I'm happy to do so, because I	
10	may not have pronounced it correctly.	06:40:14
11	A I know who is. He is another	
12	manager. I am not entirely certain his level, but I	
13	would assume he's a senior director like Jim	
14	Sherwin. worked on the planning	
15	transformation project with me.	06:40:34
<u>16</u>	Q And do you believe that you were treated	
<u>17</u>	differently because of your gender by ?	
<u>18</u>	A Yes. I was assigned to work on a project	
<u>19</u>	with that team. And, when I walked into the room,	
<u>20</u>	he asked me why I hadn't set up all the meetings,	06:41:03
<u>21</u>	why I hadn't set up email lists. Basically, was	
<u>22</u>	asking me why I hadn't done the type of	
<u>23</u>	administrative duties that are outside the scope of	
<u>24</u>	my job.	
<u>25</u>	I was the only female in the room. There	06:41:22
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<u>1</u>	were other BSAs in the room, and he didn't ask that	06:41:25
<u>2</u>	of them. I was there as the reporting developer,	
<u>3</u>	not as and as a BSA and not as not as the	
<u>4</u>	person that set up the meetings. So I believe that	
<u>5</u>	he gave me the traditional the traditional gender	06:41:44
<u>6</u>	<u>bias.</u>	
<u>7</u>	He also basically went out of his way to	
<u>8</u>	ask me, "Do you own stock in the company?" And I	
<u>9</u>	said "Yes." And he's like, "Well, then you should	
<u>10</u>	be upset with your own performance because you	06:42:07
<u>11</u>	haven't been proactive in setting up everything for	
<u>12</u>	the company" or "for the meeting," that you	
<u>13</u>	haven't done all of these things. And he listed the	
<u>14</u>	tasks that, like, an administrative assistant would	
<u>15</u>	do that are things that I don't have access to do,	06:42:24
<u>16</u>	that I don't have in the scope of my job, that are	
<u>17</u>	not specifically things of that nature that a BSA or	
<u>18</u>	a developer would do. And he yelled at me in front	
<u>19</u>	of the team. And it took probably a good 15 to 20	
<u>20</u>	minutes of an hour-long time to embarrass me in	06:42:42
<u>21</u>	front of all my male peers and counterparts.	
<u>22</u>	I immediately went to Justin and said, "I	
<u>23</u>	don't think that I will be successful in this role	
<u>24</u>	because of his bias. I think that he treats me	
<u>25</u>	differently because I'm a female. I was the only	06:43:00
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<u>1</u>	female in the room." And even when the male who was	06:43:03
<u>2</u>	supposed to do those things came in or had more	
<u>3</u>	visibility to that, he didn't he didn't recant	
<u>4</u>	and put it on the male. He kept with his behavior	
<u>5</u>	and comments.	06:43:17
<u>6</u>	And then I know that the feedback was	
7	given to because on two or three occasion he	
<u>8</u>	would approach me and say, "Oh, you don't want to	
<u>9</u>	work with me, huh?" So he definitely was informed	
<u>10</u>	that I reported the behavior to Justin.	06:43:34
<u>11</u>	My video has frozen. I don't know if the	
<u>12</u>	audio has also frozen.	
<u>13</u>	Q I still have you on the audio and now	
<u>14</u>	again the video.	
<u>15</u>	<u>A</u> Okay.	06:43:49
<u>16</u>	Q This incident where you say that	
<u>17</u>	yelled at you in front of male	
<u>18</u>	employees, do you recall when it occurred?	
<u>19</u>	A <u>I I don't.</u> I think there could be	
20	documentation with that information on it.	06:44:08
21	Q Did you go to HR or ER to report that	
22	incident?	
23	A No. I went to Justin. The complaint	
<u>24</u>	procedure says "Go to your manager. If your manager	
<u>25</u>	doesn't handle it, then go to your director. If the	06:44:21
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1	director doesn't handle it, then go to HR."	06:44:24
<u>2</u>	So I didn't feel the need to take it past	
<u>3</u>	the first step in the complaint resolution procedure	
<u>4</u>	as I knew it.	
<u>5</u>	Q Who was present at this meeting where you	06:44:32
<u>6</u>	claimed that yelled at you?	
7	A There were people on his team. I don't	
<u>8</u>	know all their names, it was so long ago. But I do	
<u>9</u>	know that I messaged Jason Judd to come into the	
10	meeting because he was the one responsible for the	06:44:50
<u>11</u>	activities that was yelling at me for. So	
12	Jason came in and took responsibility, and, you	
<u>13</u>	know, didn't apologize or relent.	
14	Q Were there you said there were male	
<u>15</u>	employees there. Were there any women employees in	06:45:06
<u>16</u>	that room? Is that a "no"?	
<u>17</u>	A Not that I recall. Not that I recall.	
18	MR. KAN: Daniel, I don't want to	
19	interrupt your flow, but if you're nearing a	
20	stopping point, we've been going almost a little	06:45:30
21	under two hours. It might be a good time for a	
22	break.	
23	MR. PRINCE: If you would like to take a	
24	break. I probably have I mean, I'm hoping to	
25	move through some of this pretty quickly, but, you	06:45:44
		Page 270

1	opportunity to respond. And that's she's	07:09:40
2	entitled to give her best answer. She was in the	
3	middle of doing it, and I think she should be given	
4	the opportunity to finish her response.	
5	So, Sara, if you can remember where you	07:09:53
6	left off, or maybe the court reporter can prompt	
7	you, and then you can finish giving your answer.	
8	And then that's fine.	
<u>9</u>	THE WITNESS: Yes. So I believe that I	
10	was at the point where we were in this golf	07:10:03
<u>11</u>	tournament. I was golfing with and	
<u>12</u>	and there was one other person present. We	
<u>13</u>	were in the middle of one of the rounds of golf, and	
<u>14</u>	did not hit the ball past the woman's pin.	
<u>15</u>	And smirked at me. And I was like	07:10:25
<u>16</u>	"What?" And he smirked and then said to	
<u>17</u>	"You're lucky she's here." And I said, you know,	
18	<u> I'm</u>	
<u>19</u>	THE REPORTER: I didn't get what he said.	
20	He said what? I'm sorry.	07:10:44
21	THE WITNESS: Oh. "You're lucky she's	
22	here."	
23	THE REPORTER: Thank you.	
24	BY MR. PRINCE:	
<u>25</u>	Q <u>Continue.</u>	07:10:44
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		1

1	A Yeah. So he said "You're lucky she's	07:10:50
<u>2</u>	here." And I called him out on it. I said, "What	
<u>3</u>	do you mean?" Like, "Why is he lucky? You know,	
<u>4</u>	we're all part of the team. If you can say it to	
<u>5</u>	him, you can say it to me."	07:11:07
<u>6</u>	And smirked at me, and then he	
<u>7</u>	motioned to to come closer. And came	
<u>8</u>	closer, and whispered in his ear. And	
<u>9</u>	then oh	
10	(Video disruption.)	07:11:30
11	MR. PRINCE: I think we've lost	
12	Ms. Johnston on video.	
13	MR. KAN: Yeah, we've lost her.	
14	THE WITNESS: It said that it had me it	
15	left the meeting. I can try and sign in again. I	07:11:38
16	think it said I lost Internet connection. Let me	
17	try to pop back in.	
18	MR. PRINCE: If we're going to do this,	
19	I'd like to go off the record.	
20	MR. KAN: That's fine.	07:11:55
21	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off record at	
22	7:11 p.m.	
23	(Pause in the proceedings.)	
24	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on record at	
25	7:14 p.m.	07:14:17
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1	BY MR. PRINCE:	07:14:20
<u>2</u>	Q <u>I think before we took a break,</u>	
<u>3</u>	Ms. Johnston, you were answering I think we may	
<u>4</u>	have lost now we have you again.	
<u>5</u>	I think Ms. Johnston was answering a	07:14:33
<u>6</u>	question about her experiences with and	
7	recounting the story of someone hitting a golf ball	
<u>8</u>	on a golf course.	
<u>9</u>	So do you recall where you left off?	
10	<u>A</u> <u>Yes.</u>	07:14:50
11	So motioned to to come	
<u>12</u>	closer, whispered into his ear and smirked at me,	
<u>13</u>	looked up and smirked at me. And I said "What?	
14	Like, you know, I'm part of this golf tournament.	
<u>15</u>	I'm part of this golf team. Like, you guys can	07:15:10
<u>16</u>	share with me what's going on."	
<u>17</u>	And told to tell me.	
<u>18</u>	And looked incredibly uncomfortable. And he	
<u>19</u>	said "You're lucky that" or "I'm lucky that	
20	you're here, because, if you weren't, when a male	07:15:28
21	doesn't hit the ball past the women's pin, they have	
22	to pull their dick out and walk to the next pin with	
<u>23</u>	it out of their pants."	
24	And I said "Wow, that's okay."	
<u>25</u>	So it made me incredibly uncomfortable.	07:15:54
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1	He is a senior director. He is a leader. He is	07:16:01
<u>2</u>	part of the OTE process for our group. I was told	
<u>3</u>	by, you know, my managers, first Zubair and Justin,	
<u>4</u>	a person I needed to impress with my career is this	
<u>5</u>	person who just made a really inappropriate comment	07:16:18
<u>6</u>	to me on the golf course.	
<u>7</u>	When I shared that comment with Steve	
<u>8</u>	Dawson, he asked me why I didn't report it. And I	
<u>9</u>	told him I think that some of the sexual comments	
<u>10</u>	and behaviors are so normalized within our group	07:16:35
<u>11</u>	that it didn't feel completely abnormal. It felt	
<u>12</u>	highly inappropriate, but I thought that was just	
<u>13</u>	me. I didn't understand with some of the	
<u>14</u>	inappropriateness how inappropriate it was at the	
<u>15</u>	time. Now I do.	07:16:54
<u>16</u>	And I told him that there are other	
<u>17</u>	occasions when made me feel very	
<u>18</u>	uncomfortable. I had my hair in a pixie cut, and	
<u>19</u>	for one of our winter parties I wore a wig, a long	
<u>20</u>	blonde hair wig for fun, going out after hours with	07:17:14
21	the crew. I also wore it for Halloween.	
22	And after that event, would	
<u>23</u>	come up and say "You should really grow your hair	
24	out. You look really good with long hair." And at	
<u>25</u>	one point, he actually, like, caressed my hair and	07:17:33
		Page 277

<u>1</u>	told me I should grow it out. And he did that in a	07:17:37
<u>2</u>	hallway where no one was looking. Because I looked	
<u>3</u>	around to see, wow, did anybody just see that?	
<u>4</u>	That's so creepy.	
<u>5</u>	So I recounted both of those to Mr. Dawson	07:17:48
<u>6</u>	and stated, you know, between , between	
7	, you know, some of the behavior that I've	
<u>8</u>	seen in senior leadership who are making the	
<u>9</u>	decisions in OTP and in our you know, in our	
10	promotion and hiring process, it seems like there's	07:18:02
11	a very biased and, you know, male gendered behavior,	
12	that there should be training at the very minimum	
<u>13</u>	for our entire department, but that an	
14	investigation should be conducted into how	
<u>15</u>	management is responding. You know, Justin and Ryan	07:18:20
16	didn't know how to handle a sexual harassment thing.	
<u>17</u>	So I testified to all of that not	
18	testified. I said all of that in my initial	
19	conversation with Steve Dawson about I	
20	think that, knowing his role and knowing that the	07:18:39
21	perception matters, I don't see how his behavior	
22	would be different than how he views my professional	
23	activities. I think he discounts women is my	
24	personal experience.	
<u>25</u>	Q Other than the golf course incident, the	07:19:02
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1	caressing of your hair and commenting on your hair,	07:19:06
<u>2</u>	are there other incidents that you claim in which	
<u>3</u>	discriminated against you based on your	
<u>4</u>	gender?	
<u>5</u>	A I think that there is probably things that	07:19:28
<u>6</u>	I didn't have a view to. I believe that he took	
7	part in the talent planning process. I was told	
<u>8</u>	that he took part in the talent planning process,	
<u>9</u>	that people either had no perception of me or didn't	
10	know who I was, didn't you know, they discounted	07:19:46
11	my presence in the project that I was on where I	
<u>12</u>	presented and was had been test captain and very	
<u>13</u>	visible where they didn't know who I was and	
14	discounted me.	
<u>15</u>	So, you know, I believe, through the	07:20:02
<u>16</u>	communications, that he's part of the reason I	
<u>17</u>	didn't get a promotion like Grant and Noah. Grant	
<u>18</u>	and Noah were direct reports of . He	
<u>19</u>	promoted them. He did not promote me. Based on	
20	what I've heard from my managers, he was the main	07:20:17
21	reason, and he was the one person I needed to	
22	impress.	
23	Q Your complaint also alleges that there was	
24	a photograph of a male director spanking a female	
25	director.	07:20:42
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1	But		07:57:21
2	BY MR. PR	INCE:	
3	Q	And so, would the sorry. Let me start	
4	over.		
5		Do you know whether women make hiring or	07:57:40
6	promotion	s decisions at Nike?	
7	А	I would assume that some do.	
8	Q	Do you know whether women make	
9	compensat	ion decisions at Nike?	
10	А	I would assume that some do that as well.	07:58:00
11	Q	Do you know whether women investigate	
12	complaint	s of gender discrimination at Nike?	
13	А	I would assume that they would if it were	
14	part of t	heir job.	
15	Q	Any reason to believe that women would not	07:58:21
16	participa	te in any of these processes?	
17		MR. KAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.	
18		THE WITNESS: I wouldn't see why they	
19	wouldn't.		
20	BY MR. PR	INCE:	07:58:40
21	Q	In your lawsuit, what's the remedy that	
22	you're se	eking?	
23	А	I don't understand the question. What do	
24	you mean	"remedy"?	
<u>25</u>	Q	What ultimate relief are you seeking in	07:59:00
			Page 297

<u>1</u>	connection with being a member of this class action	07:59:04
<u>2</u>	lawsuit?	
<u>3</u>	A Me personally?	
<u>4</u>	<u>Q</u> <u>Yes.</u>	
<u>5</u>	<u>A</u> <u>I would like all women to be treated</u>	07:59:15
<u>6</u>	fairly, to be treated equitably, to have their	
7	complaints taken seriously. I don't want any woman	
<u>8</u>	to ever experience what or I or did.	
<u>9</u>	I would really like to see a comprehensive	
10	training rolled out. I believe that some of the	07:59:37
11	same issues still exist today, and they're not	
12	addressed. So I'd like to see, you know,	
<u>13</u>	comprehensive reform.	
<u>14</u>	Q Anything else?	
<u>15</u>	A Specifically, that's all I really ever	08:00:05
<u>16</u>	wanted. That's why I went to HR.	
<u>17</u>	O Any other	
<u>18</u>	A I mean, I'd also like women to be paid	
<u>19</u>	fairly and equitably and promoted fairly and	
20	equitably. I would like my job back at a fair and	08:00:25
21	equitable wage. And I would like my benefits	
22	reinstated. I really did enjoy that six weeks of	
23	vacation.	
24	I left with five weeks before my	
25	sabbatical. That would have been six weeks	08:00:39
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## 1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION 2 I, Leslie Johnson, a Certified Shorthand 3 Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify: 4 5 That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that 6 any witnesses in the foregoing proceedings, prior to testifying, were administered an oath; that a record of 8 the proceedings was made by me using machine shorthand 9 10 which was thereafter transcribed under my direction; that the foregoing transcript is a true record of the 11 testimony given. 12 Further, that if the foregoing pertains to 13 the original transcript of a deposition in a Federal 14 Case, before completion of the proceedings, review 15 of the transcript [ ] was [ ] was not requested. 16 I further certify I am neither financially interested in 17 18 the action nor a relative or employee of any attorney or 19 any party to this action. 20 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have this date subscribed my name. 21 Dated: December 15, 2020 22 deslie Johnson 23 24 LESLIE JOHNSON CSR No. 11451, RPR, CCRR 25 Page 312